This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) A grid canvas, comprising

a canvas;

a gridline on the canvas, wherein the gridline is one of a plurality of components on the canvas;

a user-interface element that spans multiple cells on the canvas, wherein the user-interface element is one of the plurality of components on the canvas,~~;~~ and

wherein a property ~~of~~ set for the gridline~~, wherein the property is~~ defines a relationship of the gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas, a layout of the user-interface element on the canvas is determined by the property set for the gridline, and the relationship is maintained between the gridline and the user-interface element.

30. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the gridline is defined by at least one of:

a row;

a column; or

at least one row and at least one column.

31. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 30, wherein the row or the column are, respectively, a virtual row or virtual column.

32. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 29, further comprising a gridline bounding box that includes the element.

33. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 32, wherein the gridline bounding box comprises a plurality of rows and columns that contain the user-interface element.

34. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 32, further comprising margin settings within the gridline bounding box for providing desired offsets to the user-interface element.

35. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein a gridline defines a border of the canvas.

36. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the relationship of the gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas is defined as an explicit value.

37. (Previously presented) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the relationship of the gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas is defined as an auto value.

38. (Previously presented) A method for creating a grid canvas, comprising:

identifying a canvas;

defining a virtual gridline on the canvas, wherein the virtual gridline is one of a plurality of components on the canvas;

identifying a user-interface element that spans multiple cells on the canvas, wherein the user-interface element is one of the plurality of components on the canvas and may be placed on the canvas at least one of:

before the virtual gridline is defined, or

after the virtual gridline is defined;

identifying a property set for the virtual gridline, wherein the property defines a relationship of the virtual gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas;

changing a property-of at least one of: the canvas, or the at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas;

determining a layout of the user-interface element on the canvas, wherein the layout of the user-interface element is determined by the property set for the gridline;

maintaining the relationship of the virtual gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas, wherein the relationship is bi-directional, and:

resizing the user-interface element will move the gridline, and

moving the gridline will resize the user-interface element.

39. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the step of identifying a relationship of the virtual gridline to the user-interface element on the canvas is repeated for a plurality of virtual gridlines and a plurality of user-interface elements.

40. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising adding a virtual gridline dynamically to the canvas.

41. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising:

overlaying a grid on the canvas, wherein the grid comprises a plurality of virtual gridlines;

identifying a relationship of at least one of the plurality of virtual gridlines to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas.

42. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising adding a component on the grid.

43. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising:

placing the virtual gridline on the canvas according to a predetermined relationship of the virtual gridline to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas.

44. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising

placing the virtual gridline on the canvas;

identifying a relationship of the virtual gridline to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas according to the placement of the virtual gridline on the canvas;

45. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising

adding a component to the canvas;

maintaining the relationship of the virtual gridline to the element on the canvas.

46. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the virtual gridline is defined by a plurality of rows and columns that define a plurality of virtual cells, and at least one of the plurality of components spans a plurality of the virtual cells.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, further comprising adding a component to the canvas, wherein the added component inhabits at least one of the same cells of the plurality of virtual cells inhabited by the at least one of the plurality of components.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising determining a virtual gridline bounding box for the element.